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McDermott ill&Emery

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U.S. practice conducted through McDermott Will & Emery LLP. 600 Thirteenth Street, N.W.

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Docket No.: 50432-067

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Kai YANG et al.

Confirmation Number: 9188

Serial No.: 09/817,056

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filed: March 27, 2001

Examiner: T, NGUYEN

For:

STABILIZING FLUORINE ETCHING OF LOW-K MATERIALS

LETTER IN RESPONSE TO JULY 23, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Response Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the July 23, 2004 Office Action the Examiner acknowledged the response submitted May 4, 2004 but maintained the imposed rejection. Significantly, under "Response to Arguments" appearing at page 6 of the July 23, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner asserted that Exhibit A containing the Declaration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 was not received. But Applicants did submit such a Declaration (three actually) as Exhibit A to the response submitted May 12, 2004. Appended hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the Amendment submitted on May 12, 2004, together with Exhibit A, and a stamped postcard receipt acknowledging receipt of the three (3) Declarations constituting the Declaration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 received by the U.S. PTO.

09/817,056

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants solicit the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the imposed rejections of the pending claims for the reasons set forth in the May 12, 2004 response.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Registration No. 26,106

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 AJS:ntb Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

Date: July 29, 2004

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Docket No.: 50432-067

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For:

STABILIZING FLUORINE ETCHING OF LOW-K MATERIALS

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2004.